Patty Garcia  
Cayetano Heredia University, Lima, Peru  
“I imagine Fogarty’s training programs as a very rich soil. People, our trainees, are the seeds. The seeds, in a good soil, will grow into plants that eventually produce fruits—in the form of funding, scientific discoveries or even the ability to have research results influence policies that will improve public health. So, Fogarty plays a unique and crucial role by providing this fertile soil.”

Warren Johnson  
Weill Cornell Medical College  
“Fogarty has really provided the basic infrastructure for research. When you’re dealing with global health issues, the greatest lack is that there are not people overseas that can address the questions.”

David Serwadda  
Makerere University School of Public Health, Kampala, Uganda  
“Fogarty’s model of integrating training and research has been more successful than the model in which scholarships are given, Ugandans go to train, and they come back and say ‘now, what—what am I going to do?’ Those programs tend to have a much higher brain drain compared to the Fogarty model.”

Clement Adebamowo  
University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria  
“Through Fogarty, the opportunity exists for people to train in the U.S. and then return to their home countries and be assured of some level of support. It’s transformative—it returns expertise to the developing countries, contributes to capacity building, and helps the institutions that have trained these people extend their reach in a much more synergistic fashion than if U.S. researchers themselves went into the developing country to offer expertise.”

Bill Tierney  
Indiana University  
“Something that’s unique about Fogarty is the group learning that goes on among its grantees because they convene us regularly. It isn’t just ‘here’s money, go away,’ it’s ‘here’s money, come and share what you’ve learned.’ And in my experience, that’s unique—that’s something that nobody else does.”
The Fogarty International Center’s vision is a world in which the frontiers of health research extend across the globe and advances in science are implemented to reduce the burden of disease, promote health, and extend longevity for all people.

The Fogarty International Center, part of the National Institutes of Health, supports basic, clinical and applied research and training for U.S. and foreign investigators working in the developing world. Since its formation more than 40 years ago, Fogarty has served as a bridge between NIH and the greater global health community—facilitating exchanges among investigators, providing training opportunities and supporting promising research initiatives in developing countries. Over the last four decades, about 5,000 scientists worldwide have received significant research training through Fogarty programs.

Today, Fogarty funds some 400 research and training projects involving more than 100 U.S. universities. The U.S. scientists, in turn, collaborate with colleagues in numerous foreign countries, most of them in the developing world.

Fogarty partners with 20 institutes and centers across NIH to develop and fund its unique programs. In his role as NIH Associate Director for International Research, Fogarty’s director also provides guidance and leadership on global health to the NIH director and other institutes and centers. Fogarty also convenes the best scientific minds around the world to address critical global health research problems such as polio eradication, the impact of climate change on disease outbreaks and strengthening research capacity in Africa.

Fogarty’s four divisions work together to support global health research and training programs that improve health and generate data and concepts to guide national and international global health policies—including analyses of social, ethical and economic issues.

Training researchers, at home and abroad
The international training and research division administers research grants, training grants and fellowship programs at sites in more than 100 countries. Fogarty programs that build the research pipeline are anchored to peer-reviewed research grants and designed to be collaborative, long term and flexible. Nearly a quarter of Fogarty awards are made directly to robust research institutions in the developing world. The remaining grants support scientists at U.S. institutions who collaborate with colleagues abroad. About one-third of Fogarty’s grants focus on scientific discovery, and two-thirds support research training.

www.fic.nih.gov/researchtraining.htm
Americans benefit from global health research

Improving global health isn’t only the right thing to do from a humanitarian standpoint, it also leads to discoveries that benefit Americans’ health. For instance, research in Nigeria is helping scientists to understand the genetic reasons why African American women with breast cancer don’t respond as well to standard treatment. In Bangladesh in the 1970s, efforts to address a deadly cholera epidemic led to the development of oral rehydration therapy, now commonly used to treat diarrhea in children everywhere. These and other advances made overseas improve the lives of people in the U.S. and around the world.

Building sustainable research capacity

Health research in the 21st century is increasingly a team effort. Interdisciplinary research groups have been prime movers in the development of low-cost diagnostics and cost-efficient ways to prevent and treat disease. Research groups are best suited to address global health issues when the teams are multinational and sensitive to local culture and context. Building such teams in institutions around the world has been an important Fogarty strategy for decades.

Research training programs focus on:
- Infectious diseases, such as HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria
- Chronic conditions, including cancer, heart disease and diabetes
- Population health
- Informatics
- Genetics
- Clinical, operational and health services

Research projects encourage discoveries in the areas of:
- Brain disorders and mental illness
- Ecology of infectious diseases
- Biodiversity and natural products discovery
- Tobacco
Mission
The Fogarty International Center is dedicated to advancing the mission of the National Institutes of Health by supporting and facilitating global health research conducted by U.S. and international investigators, building partnerships between health research institutions in the U.S. and abroad, and training the next generation of scientists to address global health needs.

Planning for future global health needs
The policy division provides strategic guidance to Fogarty’s director on the development, analysis and evaluation of Fogarty’s programs and on international science policy issues. The division tracks activities of international funding agencies and research trends in global health. The division also advises Fogarty’s director on legislative and partnership matters and manages the Center’s involvement in the Disease Control Priorities Project.

www.fic.nih.gov/policy.htm

Encouraging research through diplomacy
The international relations division develops new partnerships among U.S. scientists, institutions and counterparts abroad to advance research and training in the biomedical and behavioral sciences. The division works on behalf of Fogarty and the whole of NIH to identify opportunities for collaboration with foreign science-funding agencies, the U.S. Department of State, U.S. technical agencies and international organizations. It forms agreements with other nations to establish research collaborations and commitments for home country support for foreign researchers returning from NIH fellowships to facilitate their successful re-entry.

www.fic.nih.gov/intlrelations.htm

Predicting and analyzing disease outbreaks
Fogarty’s in-house scientists conduct research on the epidemiology and mathematical modeling of infectious diseases. Primary concentrations include cross-national studies of mortality patterns with special emphasis on influenza, vector-borne diseases and vaccine-preventable diseases. Since 2000, these scientists, with collaborators in more than 24 countries, have produced research used to guide domestic and international policy in the development of countermeasures for potential bioterror agents and public health measures to control the spread of infectious diseases.

www.fic.nih.gov/epipopstudies.htm
“I visualize this center ... as representing the visible and tangible embodiment of this nation’s devotion to the use of science for peaceful purposes and the good of mankind.”


Decades before phrases like “globalization” and “multiculturalism” became commonplace, Rep. John Edward Fogarty (D-RI) advocated for international health research to reduce suffering and foster peace and prosperity throughout the world. Over the course of his 27 years in Congress, Fogarty was a champion for NIH and for the value of medical research. During his tenure as Chair of the Appropriations Subcommittee with responsibility for health funding, the budget for NIH grew from $37 million in 1949 to $1.24 billion in 1967.

Over the years, Fogarty repeatedly, but unsuccessfully, argued for the creation of an international health research institute to promote the study of global health problems. His sudden death of a heart attack on January 10, 1967, provided the catalyst that finally brought his “Health for Peace” center into existence in July 1968. Since then, the John E. Fogarty International Center has assumed a prominent place in the global health community, funding research and building sustainable research capacity at home and abroad.